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## The gender of genera ending in *-oenas*

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Many avian genus-group names have been formed from the feminine Greek word οὐνάς [wild pigeon]. Some, like *Oena*, *Reinwardtoena* and *Turacoena*, are Latinised with a change of ending [-ας to -a], here indicative of the feminine gender (ICZN 1999, Art. 30.1.3) that is correctly reflected by current combinations (Peters 1937, Dickinson 2003).

Names ending in *-oenas* (this is not the transliterated *-oimas*, to be treated under Art. 30.1.2) are also Latinised, but this ending is *not* indicative of a particular gender under Art. 30.1.3. In such cases, the gender must be determined under Art. 30.1.4.2: a name that ends in *-oenas* is masculine unless its author, in the original work, stated that it is feminine or combined it with an adjectival species-group name in the feminine form.

Table 1 shows the grammatical gender of the generic names ending in *-oenas* that are to be encountered within Peters (1937), Wolters (1975) and Dickinson (2003). A considerable number of other avian generic names ending in *-oenas* are to be found as subgenera or junior synonyms in other works, but they are not treated here.

TABLE 1

Gender of generic names ending in *-oenas* as found in Peters (1937), Wolters (1975), and Dickinson (2003).

Genus-group name	Original combination	Gender
<i>Alectroenas</i> G. R. Gray, 1840	<i>A. franciae</i>	Masc.
<i>Alopecoenas</i> Sharpe, 1899	<i>A. hoedti</i>	Masc.
<i>Caloenas</i> G. R. Gray, 1840	<i>C. nicobarica</i>	Fem.
<i>Chloroenas</i> Reichenbach, 1853	<i>C. monilis</i>	Masc.
<i>Compsoenas</i> Riley, 1921	<i>C. radiata</i>	Fem.
<i>Coryphoenas</i> Wardlaw Ramsay, 1890	<i>C. crassirostris</i>	Masc.
<i>Janthoenas</i> Reichenbach, 1853	<i>J. janthina</i>	Fem.
<i>Lepidoenas</i> Reichenbach, 1853	<i>L. speciosa</i>	Fem.
<i>Lithoenas</i> Reichenbach, 1853	<i>L. livia</i>	Fem.
<i>Nesoenas</i> Salvadori, 1893	<i>N. mayeri</i>	Masc.
<i>Notioenas</i> Ridgway, 1915	No combination	Masc.
<i>Oenoenas</i> Salvadori, 1893	No combination	Masc.
<i>Patagioenas</i> Reichenbach, 1853	<i>P. leucocephala</i>	Fem.
<i>Starnoenas</i> Bonaparte, 1838	<i>S. cyanocephala</i>	Fem.
<i>Taenioenas</i> Reichenbach, 1853	<i>T. albitorques</i>	Masc.
<i>Zonoenas</i> Reichenbach, 1853	<i>Z. muelleri</i>	Masc.

Some Latinised names having identical final components are not necessarily of the same gender, as shown by the treatment of genera in section 7c (see in particular those ending in *-myias*, from the Greek  $\mu\upsilon\iota\alpha$ ) of David & Gosselin (2002). Of the genus-group names in Table 1 that Dickinson (2003) used as valid, two—*Alectroenas* and *Nesoenas*—must be treated as masculine (instead of feminine), and of all the species-group names combined with them only two require a mandatory gender ending change (Arts. 31.2, 34.2) as follows: *Alectroenas nitidissimus* and *Alectroenas pulcherrimus*.

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